

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for oral delivery of a cephalosporin comprising:
 - a) a composition consisting of;
 - (i) carrageenan ~~and optionally one or more additional biopolymers;~~
 - (ii) at least one cephalosporin entrained within or ionically bound to the biopolymer;
 - (iii) at least one metal cation entrained within or ionically bound to the biopolymer or the cephalosporin; and
 - b) an absorption enhancer.
3. (Cancel)
4. (Cancel)
5. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2 wherein the cephalosporin is selected from the group consisting of ceftiofur, cefipime, cefixime, cefoperazone, cefotaxime, cefpodoxime, ceftazidime, ceftizoxime, ceftriaxone, ceftiprome, cefclidin, cefmenoxime, ceftazopran, and combinations thereof.
6. -11. (Cancel)
12. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5 wherein the cephalosporin is ceftriaxone.
13. (Cancel).

14. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2 wherein the metal cation is selected from the group consisting of calcium, magnesium, lithium, iron, copper, zinc, aluminum, manganese, chromium, cobalt, nickel, and combinations thereof.

15. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein the metal cation is calcium.

16. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein the metal cation is zinc.

17. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2 wherein the metal cation is ionically bound to the ~~biopolymer~~ carrageenan forming a metal cation-~~biopolymer~~ carrageenan complex and the cephalosporin is contained within the metal cation-~~biopolymer~~ carrageenan complex.

18. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2 wherein the metal cation is ionically bound to the cephalosporin forming a metal cation-cephalosporin complex and the metal cation-cephalosporin complex is contained within the ~~biopolymer~~ carrageenan.

19. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2 wherein the metal cation is complexed to the cephalosporin and the metal cation is further ionically bound to the ~~biopolymer~~ carrageenan forming a cephalosporin-metal cation-~~biopolymer~~ carrageenan bridge.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15 or 20 wherein the carrageenan has a calcium content of less than about 0.4% by weight.

22. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2 wherein ~~the biopolymer is carrageenan~~, the cephalosporin is ceftriaxone, the metal cation is calcium and the absorption enhancer is a non-ionic surfactant.

23 to 41 (Canceled)

42. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the cephalosporin is a third generation cephalosporin.